## Amendments to the Claims:

Claims 1-5 (Cancelled).

6. (Currently Amended) A support structure for supporting an object, comprising:

an elongated member extending along a longitudinal axis and having first and second sides, [and] first and second edges and a thickness;

a first set of ribs projecting from the first side of the elongated member and corresponding to a first set of depressions in the second side of the elongated member, the first set of ribs including first, second and third ribs axially spaced from each other along an axis transverse to the longitudinal axis;

a second set of ribs projecting from the first side of the elongated member at a location axially spaced from the first set of ribs so as to define an object receiving cradle therebetween, the second set of ribs including first, second and third ribs axially spaced from each other along a second axis transverse to the longitudinal axis of the elongated member;

a first rib projecting from the second side of the elongated member and corresponding to a first depression in the first side of the elongated member between the first and second ribs of the first set of ribs; and

a second rib projecting from the second side of the elongated member at a location axially spaced the first rib projecting from the second side of the elongated member so as to define a second side object receiving cradle therebetween, the second rib projecting from the second side of the elongated member corresponding to a second depression in the first side of the elongated member between the first and second ribs of the second set of ribs[.];

wherein:

the object receiving cradle on the first side of the elongated member includes a midpoint generally equidistant between the first and second set of ribs;

SERIAL NO.: 09/836,769

JEFFREY J. GRATZ

the object receiving cradle on the second side of the elongated member includes a midpoint generally equidistant between the first and second ribs;

the <u>midpoint of the</u> object receiving cradle on the first side of the elongated member and the <u>midpoint of the</u> second side object receiving cradle [overlap] <u>are axially aligned</u> and are separated by a distance generally equal to the thickness of the elongated member.

7. (Previously Presented) The support structure of claim 6 wherein the second ribs of the each of the sets of ribs are axially spaced from edges of the elongated member.

## Claim 8 (Cancelled).

- 9. (Previously Presented The support structure of claim 6 wherein the first, second and third ribs of the first set of ribs and the first, second and third ribs of the second set of ribs have a predetermined height and wherein the first and second ribs projecting from the second side of the elongated member have a predetermined height.
- 10. (Previously Presented) The support structure of claim 9 wherein the predetermined height of the first, second and third ribs of the first set of ribs and of the first, second and third ribs of the second set of ribs is generally equal to the predetermined height of the first and second ribs projecting from the second side of the elongated member.
- 11. (Previously Presented) The support structure of claim 6 further comprising a third set of ribs projecting from the first side of the elongated member at a location axially spaced from the second set of ribs so as to define a second object receiving cradle therebetween, the third set of ribs including first, second and third ribs axially spaced from each other along a third axis transverse to the longitudinal axis of the elongated member.

Claims 12-13. (Cancelled).

14. (Currently Amended) A support structure for supporting an object, comprising:

an elongated member extending along a longitudinal axis and having first and second sides, first and second edges, first and second ends, and a thickness, the first side of the elongated member including:

- a first plurality of ribs projecting therefrom and being spaced between the first and second ends along a first axis;
- a second plurality of ribs projecting therefrom and being spaced between the first and second ends along a second axis;
- a third plurality of ribs projecting therefrom and being spaced between the first and second ends along a third axis;
- a first plurality of depressions formed therein and being spaced between the first and second ends along a first depression axis disposed between the first and second axis; and
- a second plurality of depressions formed therein and being spaced between the first and second ends along a second depression axis disposed between the second and third axis;

wherein:

the first plurality of ribs projecting from the first side of the elongated member includes a first rib and a second rib, the first rib and the second rib partially defining a first object receiving cradle therebetween;

each of the first plurality of ribs is aligned with a corresponding rib of the second plurality of ribs and with a corresponding rib of the third plurality of ribs along a corresponding axis transverse to the longitudinal axis of the elongated member;

each of the first plurality of depressions is disposed between one of the first plurality of ribs and one of the second plurality of ribs and wherein each of the second

4

JEFFREY J. GRATZ

plurality of depressions is disposed between one of the second plurality of ribs and one of the third plurality of ribs;

the first plurality of depressions form corresponding ribs projecting from the second side of the elongated member, the ribs projecting from the second side of the elongated member being spaced between the first and second ends along the first depression axis;

the ribs projecting from the second side of the elongated <u>member</u> includes a first rib and a second rib, the first rib and the second rib defining a second side object receiving cradle therebetween; [ and ]

the first object receiving cradle on the first side of the elongated member includes a midpoint generally equidistant between the first and second ribs of the first plurality of ribs projecting from the first side of the elongated member;

the second object receiving cradle on the second side of the elongated member includes a midpoint generally equidistant between the first and second ribs projecting from the second side of the elongated member; and

wherein the midpoint of the first object receiving cradle and the midpoint of the second object receiving cradle [overlap] are axially aligned and are separated by the thickness of the elongated member.

Claims 15-20 (Cancelled).